

## State of Nevada ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS

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## **Meeting Minutes**

**Organization:** Advisory Council for Prosecuting Attorneys

Date and Time of Meeting: September 14, 2016 – 7:00 a.m.

Place of Meeting: Prosecutor's Conference

Hard Rock Hotel, Revolution A Meeting Room

50 Highway 50

South Lake Tahoe, Nevada

**Attendees:** 

Guest Present:
John Jones

Christopher Lalli

Adam Laxalt, Attorney General, Chair

Steve Wolfson, Vice Chair

A.J. DeLap

Karl Hall – via Brian Sooudi by Proxy

Chris Hicks

Art Mallory – via Lane Mills by Proxy

Josh Reid – via Mark Schifalacqua by Proxy

Patricia Cafferata, Executive Director

- 1. Roll Call and self-introduction of members present. (Agenda Item No. 1) The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 a.m. Roll Call was made by Patricia Cafferata. Quorum was present. Members present introduced themselves.
- 2. Public Comment. Discussion Only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item, until scheduled on the agenda of a future meeting for possible action. (Agenda Item No. 3)

  No public comment.
- 3. Attorney General Adam Laxalt's Welcome (Agenda Item No. 2)
- 4. Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2016 meeting. (Agenda Item No. 4)

Chris Hicks moved to approve the minutes from the April 20, 2016 meeting. Steve Wolfson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Discussion and possible action on Council's duties on training prosecutors and on developing policies for conducting criminal and civil prosecutions – NRS 241A.070. Patricia Cafferata, Advisory Council Executive Director and Special Assistant Attorney General. (Attachment Two (2) - NRS 241A.) (Agenda Item No. 5) Patricia Cafferata reported that her counterparts in other states across the nation offer monthly trainings, not just a yearly conference for training. Cafferata queried the group to inquire if more trainings are wanted, and if so, what type of trainings. She reported on a half-day Drugged Driving Training recently held at the Attorney General's office that was well received and attended. Wolfson stated that his office already has a good training program, but feels there is always a need for additional training, and would encourage his prosecutors to attend other trainings. National Attorneys General Training and research Institute (NAGTRI) was discussed to conduct additional future trainings. NAGTRI has training budgets and can offer training free of charge. Wolfson suggested scheduling half day afternoon on current topics, not more than a couple of subjects per training, scheduling at least six weeks out to accommodate court schedules. Laxalt suggested asking NAGTRI to put together a list of twenty or so topics and distribute the list to the Council for review and input on what training topics would be best. Washoe County DA's Office would be agreeable to hosting the training. Washoe and Clark County have teleconferencing capabilities to enable simultaneous training. Lane Mills stated Churchill County has teleconferencing capabilities with other DA's offices, as do other counties, therefore, training could be done statewide. Video teleconferencing for the rural counties was further discussed, it was determined that for those counties who are able to connect via teleconferencing to Vegas and/or Reno, those counties could be regional host hubs for the other rural counties, eliminating the necessity of a long drive to participate in training opportunities. The different entities will consult their IT personnel to determine how to make these video teleconferencing connections occur.
- 6. Discussion and possible action on coordinating the development of proposed legislation for the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session in 2017. Brett Kandt, Chief Deputy Attorney General and John Jones, Chief Deputy District Attorney Clark County. (Agenda Item No. 6)
  John Jones announced that he and Brett Kandt would have this presentation ready for the District Attorneys Association Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2016.
- 7. Council members' comments. Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item, until scheduled on the agenda of a future meeting for possible action. (Agenda Item No. 7)

  Cafferata reported that she selected Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for the Prosecutor's Conference. This was a deviation from the Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday days of the week which the conference was previously held. She requested members to let her know which days of the week they preferred for future conferences. Marc Schifalacqua stated that typically they request the Courts to go dark on Wednesday and Thursdays, and the courts generally accommodate their request. This year when Tuesday was also requested they received pushback from the courts, therefore some individuals were not able to attend this conference because of court conflicts. The group consensus was that they preferred a Wednesday through Friday schedule. Cafferata also inquired about any specific programs or topics for the next conference. Additionally, she

inquired if the current format including breakout sessions is acceptable, or if round table sessions are wanted, and if elected district attorneys should be included on panels. After discussion regarding different topics, i.e. a panel of both urban and rural elected District Attorney comparing issues would be interesting. The members decided they would confer with their co-workers and come to the next meeting with suggested topics for the next conference.

## 8. Discussion of dates for quarterly meetings in 2017 – NRS 241A.050.1. (Attachment Two (2) - NRS 241A.) (Agenda Item No. 8)

Cafferata stated that the law requires quarterly meetings of the Council and suggested the next meeting to be in December, 2016. Wolfson suggested that the Council be scheduled to meet in early December 2016, March 2017, and June, 2017, and that these meeting be scheduled in advance to secure the dates on everyone's calendar. Cafferata will email the members and secure dates that are agreeable to the majority. The starting and stopping times for each day of the conference were discussed, and it was determined that this years' time schedule is a good model for future conferences.

Wolfson inquired as to the location of the next conference. Cafferata stated that it has always alternated between the north and south. Wolfson suggested Laughlin for the next conference. Cafferata asked if there was any interest in arranging extracurricular tours during the next conference. After discussion it was determined that if any interesting applicable tours were located, it would be circulated to the members for discussion.

9. Public Comment. Discussion only. Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item, until scheduled on the agenda of a future meeting for possible action. (Agenda Item No. 9)

An inquiry was made regarding the scheduling of the reception during the legislative session. Cafferata stated that Sheriff's and Chief's and the District Attorney Association have voted to each contribute equal amounts to cover the cost. A date has been selected for the first week of February. She will circulate the exact date and location to the Council members.

## **10. Adjournment.** (Agenda Item No. 10)

Mark Schifalacqua moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris Hicks seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Riherd, Legal Office Manager, Office of the Attorney General.